

B O R O U G H O F R U T H I N

A N N U A L

H E A L T H R E P O R T

1 9 6 6

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Public Health Inspector	-	D. S. MORGAN, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. Town Hall, Ruthin. Telephone No. Ruthin 2855.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Ruthin.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

The Public Health Inspector and I have pleasure in presenting our report on the health of the Borough for the year 1966.

We wish to thank you, Mr. Mayor, the Chairmen of the various committees, and the members for the assistance given to us during the year. We would also like to thank the officials and members of the staff for their assistance whenever asked for.

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS.

Medical Officer of Health.

The Mayor of the Borough and the Chairman of the Health Committees during the year were as follows:-

Mayor of the Borough:	Alderman O. Llewellyn Hughes,
Chairman of the Housing and Public Health Committee:-	Councillor Ellis Davies.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH.

Area of the Borough	2016 acres.
Registrar General's estimated population (mid-1966).	3,790
Number of inhabited houses	1,213
Rateable Value (1.4.66)	£152,724
Sum represented by a penny rate	£587: 6: 7.

The estimated population of the Borough was 3,790 compared with 3,780 in 1965, an increase of 10.

The number of inhabited houses was 1213 compared with 1,183 in 1965, an increase of 30.

DEATHS.

Comparability Factor 0.74

	England and Wales, 1966	1966	1965
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)	11.7	15.83	14.55
Corrected death rate (per 1,000 population)		11.71	10.91
Still-Birth rate (per 1,000 population)		.52	.53
Still-Birth rate (per 1,000 live and still-births)	15.4	38.4	33.8
Maternal Mortality rate	0.26	Nil	Nil
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	19.0	40.0	17.5
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 legitimate live births)		41.7	17.5
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 illegitimate live births)		Nil	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births). First 4 weeks.	12.9	40.0	Nil
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	11.1	20.0	Nil
Peri-natal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	26.3	57.7	33.8

The following table shows the number of deaths which occurred during the year. The number of deaths which occurred in 1965 is shown in the first column for comparison.

	1965 Total	Sex	Total all Ages 1966	Under Four Weeks	5 -	45 -	55 -	65 -	75 and over
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	4	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	-	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
	-	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	4	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	3	M	4	-	-	-	-	1	3
	5	F	2	-	-	-	1	-	1
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
	-	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	3	M	6	-	-	-	-	1	5
	4	F	5	-	-	-	1	1	3
Coronary Disease, Angina	7	M	5	-	-	1	3	-	1
	4	F	11	-	-	1	-	2	8
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
	1	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Heart Disease	1	M	4	-	-	-	-	1	3
	7	F	2	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other Circulatory Disease	1	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	3	F	5	-	-	-	-	1	4
Pneumonia	-	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
	-	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Bronchitis	2	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	-	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
	1	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	-	M	3	1	-	1	-	1	-
	1	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other Accidents	-	M	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
	1	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	24	M	32	2	1	2	6	6	15
	31	F	28	-	-	1	3	7	17

There were 60 deaths during the year compared with 55 the previous year, giving a death rate of 11.71 compared with 10.91 in 1965 and 11.7 for England and Wales. Of these deaths, 45 occurred in persons aged 65 years and over.

Cancer caused 10 deaths compared with 18 in 1965; 1 of them was due to lung cancer compared with 2 last year.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system caused 11 deaths compared with 11 in 1965.

Coronary disease and angina accounted for 16 deaths compared with 11 last year. One death was due to hypertension and 6 were due to other heart diseases. Other circulatory diseases caused 6 deaths.

Bronchitis was a cause of 1 death compared with 2 in 1965, and pneumonia caused 2 deaths. Nephritis, nephrosis and other ill defined and defined diseases caused 4 deaths. There were two accidental deaths.

Still-Births.

The Still-Birth rate (per 1,000 live and still-births) was 38.4 compared with 33.8 in 1965 and 15.4 for England and Wales. The actual number of still-births was 2 compared with 2 the previous year. One was at the 36th week of pregnancy and one at the 34th week. Both appear to have been unavoidable.

Infant Deaths.

There were 2 infant deaths compared with 1 in 1965. This gives an Infant Mortality Rate of 40.0 compared with 17.5 in 1965 and 19.0 for England and Wales. Both deaths took place in hospital. One baby was aged one week and had multiple congenital abnormalities and the other was aged 3 days and was premature and had haemorrhagic disease of the new born. Both cases appear to have been unavoidable deaths.

Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal causes of death, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of Nil as in the previous year and compared with 0.26 for England and Wales.

BIRTHS.

Comparability Factor 1.22

Actual number of births registered92
Number of births relating to residents52

The hospital in Ruthin has a Maternity Unit which also caters for the surrounding areas. Births relating to residents in the Borough also take place in hospitals in adjoining areas.

The births were classified as follows:-

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	25	25	50
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total	26	26	52
	England and Wales, 1966	1966	1965.
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	17.7	13.19	15.08
Corrected Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)		16.09	18.39
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births		4.2	NIL

Infectious Diseases.

As can be seen from the table, the following infectious diseases were notified during the year.

Notifiable Diseases	Total 1965	Total 1966	Under 1 year	1 - 5 years	6 - 15 years	16-25 years	26-45 years
Measles	89	3	-	1	1	-	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Totals:	90	4	-	1	1	-	2

Only 4 cases were notified compared with 90 in 1965. Of these, 3 cases were due to measles and one due to pulmonary tuberculosis.

One case of suspected smallpox in a youth was visited. The boy had been working outside the area and had returned home because of illness. He was admitted to an isolation hospital where, after tests, the case was found to be one of chickenpox.

Brucella.

Five cases of Brucellosis were notified. In each case untreated milk produced outside the Borough had been consumed. All cases were followed up and the same milk supply was the cause. The County Public Health Officer visited the farm concerned and took bulk samples for examination. This was shown to be infected with Brucellosis. Individual samples from the cows were taken and in the case of those found to be infected an order for pasteurisation was served under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations. Milk now retailed from this herd is under supervision and has been negative.

Tuberculosis Register.

Five cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were removed from the register as having been cured.

The following table shows the number of cases on the register at the beginning and end of 1966.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total.
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Number on Register on 1st January, 1966.	7	6	3	-	16
Number on Register on 31st December, 1966.	6	3	3	-	12

Anthrax in animals.

One case of Anthrax in animals was notified. There were no human cases.

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Injections to protect against these three are given together and referred to as the "Triple" injection. Three doses are given at monthly intervals from the age of three months. A booster is given at the age of 18 months, followed by boosters against diphtheria and tetanus at school entry and at the age of 10 years.

The number of children immunised during 1966 were:-

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Diphtheria	29	51
Whooping Cough	29	34
Tetanus	29	35

Poliomyelitis.

Oral vaccine (Sabin) is used in all County Clinics. Three doses of 3 drops on a lump of sugar or in syrup are given from the age of 6 months and a booster dose is given at the age of 5 years. Salk vaccine (by injection) was only given to one child.

Number of children vaccinated during 1966:-

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Sabin vaccine	38	64
Salk vaccine	1	

Smallpox.

Primary vaccination is carried out in the County Clinics between the ages of 1 and 2 years.

Number of children vaccinated during 1966:-

Primary	31
Revaccination	44

The increased number of revaccinations were amongst those going abroad and several of these were school children who went on a school cruise in October.

Tuberculosis.

Senior schools are visited and the children tested against tuberculosis and those found to be negative are given B.C.G. vaccination. Those found to be positive are further examined by the Mass Radiography Unit and all the family are encouraged to attend in case a member is found to be suffering from tuberculosis and has infected the child.

All contacts to cases of tuberculosis are followed up and children are given protection against tuberculosis from a very young age.

The number of children attending Brynhyfryd School who accepted the testing and vaccination were:-

Number of children tested	121
Number of children found to be positive	20
Number of children found to be negative	95
Number of children given B.C.G. vaccination	95

Six children did not attend for the reading of the test and of the 95 who did, all were given the protective dose.

Mass Radiography Unit.

The unit was situated on the Square and visited the Borough once every three weeks. The following table shows the number and type of person examined.

Number examined:	594
Number of visits:	15
Average attendance per visit:	40

The type of examinee was as follows:-

General population volunteers:	557
General practitioner referrals:	3
Contacts	22
Scholars	12

The reports are confidential and are only sent to the patient's doctor.

The Unit is to be moved in the new year to Crispin Yard.

The number who visited the unit for examination is small and unless there is an improvement there is the possibility of this most useful service being taken away from the Borough and a unit will visit once a year, or maybe every two years.

Care of the Aged.

No cases of persons in need of care and attention and not giving themselves the necessary care and attention were brought to my notice during the year, therefore, it was not necessary for the Council to take action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act.

Darby and Joan Club.

An excellent Darby and Joan Club exists in the Borough and there are several organisations in the town taking interest in our older citizens, especially at Christmas time.

Meals on Wheels.

A Meals on Wheels Service was inaugurated in the Borough during the year and 2,101 meals have been served. This is run by the Womens Royal Voluntary Service. Doctors, nurses and health visitors send names of those eligible to Mrs. Griffith, the Organiser, who arranges for other voluntary workers to take dinners to them. Dinners are cooked at Rhos Street School canteen during term time and at Rhyddfian Home for the Aged during holiday periods. Excellent meals are delivered twice a week which are greatly appreciated by those receiving them. The cost to the recipient is only 1/-. Not only do people receive a nourishing meal twice a week, they also look forward to the visits of those delivering them. Should these ladies think one of these people is not well, then contacts can be made with relatives, nurses, doctors etc. We owe a great debt to these ladies who give their free time to this most wonderful service.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Food.

The number of food premises in the Borough is as follows:-

General Food premises (grocery etc.)	20
Public Houses and Hotels	10
Cafés and Restaurants	6
School Canteens	4
Kitchens in Hospitals and Old Peoples' Homes	2
Bakehouses	3
Butchers' Shops	10
Fried Fish Shops	5
Vans and Stalls	2

During the year 31 visits have been made to food premises.

Unsound Food.

The undermentioned foodstuffs were certified as being unfit for human consumption:-

Tinned meat	129 lbs.
Tinned vegetables	137 lbs.
Tinned fruit	183 lbs.
Evaporated milk.....	7 pints

We wish to thank Mr. Owens, Chief Inspector for the County, for the following particulars of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in the Borough, during the year ended 31st December, 1966.

Article	No. taken.	Genuine	Not Genuine, or sub-standard.
MILK.	8	8	-
Ice Cream.	1	1	-
Sweet Spirit of Nitre	1	1	-
Cod Liver Oil	1	1	-
TOTALS	11	11	-

In addition to the usual tests for quality, six of the samples of milk submitted were examined for the presence of antibiotics with a negative result in each case. All the samples were certified by the Public Analyst to be genuine and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

Milk.

There are four main distributors in the Borough and a few other farms who are distributing on a small scale.

Ice Cream.

No samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination. There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the Borough, and all the ice cream sold is manufactured by large firms who sample regularly throughout the country.

Meat Inspection.

During the year 231 visits were made to the slaughterhouse for the purpose of meat inspection etc.

Slaughterhouse.

There is one slaughterhouse in the centre of the town, and as regards slaughtering it is up to required standards. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have made their annual visits and are satisfied with the existing conditions prevailing there. The Public Health Inspector also is in agreement that the slaughterhouse is up to standard, and during the year the whole premises have been repainted.

Animals Slaughtered.

During the year the following number of animals were slaughtered:-

Cattle	410
Calves	3
Sheep	3546
Pigs	623

Condemned Meat.

The following meat and offal were rejected as unfit for human consumption:-

Ox Liver	277 lbs.
Sheep Liver.....	198 lbs.
Pig Liver.....	144 lbs.
Miscellaneous Offal.....	30 lbs.
Pig Carcasses and Organs.....	27 lbs.
Pigs' Heads	27 lbs.
Beef Carcase Meat.....	1532 lbs.
Sheep Carcasses and Organs....	553 lbs.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

20 visits have been made to these premises during the year and there are 73 registered premises within the Borough.

Water Supply.

The water supply to the town is now the responsibility of the West Denbighshire and West Flintshire Water Board and samples of the water is being taken by the Council and the Water Board. The Board take their samples as a safeguard to ensure that their plant is working correctly and we, as a Public Health Authority, take samples so that the public are safeguarded against any error or breakdown which could not be foreseen.

Date	Nature of Sample	Report
22:2:66.	Filtered water from pipe, Bathafarn Filter house.	
22:2:66.	Raw water from pipe, Bathafarn Filter House.	
22:2:66.	Filtered and Chlorinated water from tap in house, Llanfair Road, Ruthin. Main piped supply (Bathafarn & Efail Newydd).	Ministry of Health Classification. Class 1 - Satisfactory.
22:2:66.	Filtered and Chlorinated water from Chlorinating Tank, Bathafarn Filter House. Main piped supply (Bathafarn).	Ministry of Health Classification. Class 1 - Satisfactory.
22:3:66.	Raw water from Waterworks, Bathafarn Filter House.	
5:7:66.	Chlorinated water from tap in Town Hall, Ruthin. Main piped supply.	Ministry of Health Classification. Class 1 - Satisfactory.
7:6:66.	Chlorinated water from tap in Town Hall. Main piped supply.	Ministry of Health Classification. Class 1 - Satisfactory.
7:6:66.	Chlorinated water from tap in Blaen Ddol, Denbigh Road, Ruthin. Main piped supply.	Ministry of Health Classification. Class 2 - Unsatisfactory for chlorinated water.
14:6:66.	Chlorinated water from tap in Blaen Ddol, Ruthin. Main piped supply.	Ministry of Health Classification. Class 1 - Satisfactory.

5:7:66.	Chlorinated water from tap in Town Hall, Ruthin. Main piped supply.	Ministry of Health Classification. Class 1 - Satisfactory.
11:10:66.	Filtered and part chlorinated water from tap in house, Llanfair Road, Ruthin. Main piped supply (Bathafarn & Efail Newydd).	Ministry of Health Classification. Class 1 - Excellent.

During the year there has been adequate quantity of water and the chlorination has been efficient. The main complaint regarding the water had been its hardness. This is due to the supplementation of the reservoirs by borehole water. During prolonged dry periods considerable quantities of this water has to be used.

All properties in the Borough have a main supply of water and there are to my knowledge no stand pipes in use for this purpose.

Chemical Samples.

One chemical sample was taken during the year. Details of the sample taken in 1965 is also given below:-

	Efail Newydd Bore. Raw Water inlet at Tap in pumping station from borehole.	Filter House, Bathafarn Impounding Reservoir, Ruthin.
	20:10:65.	10:5:66.
<u>Analysis.</u>		
Appearance	Clear & colourless	Clear very slightly coloured.
Odour	Nil	Nil
Reaction, pH	6.6	approx. 8.3.
		Parts per Million
Nitrogen as albumidoid ammonia	0.005	0.00
Total solids	293	180
Nitrogen as free & saline ammonia	0.01	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	2.0	0.25
Chlorides, as Cl	28	23
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C	0.5	1.0
Total hardness	226	95
Temporary hardness	186	23
Permanent hardness	40	72
Alkalinity	185	23
Free Chlorine	Nil	Nil
Potassium, as K	-	-
Anionic synthetic detergents .	-	-
Manganese, as Mn	Less than 0.025	Less than 0.025
Cyanides and thiocyanates	Nil	Nil
Poisonous metals	Nil	Nil
Fluorine	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1
Free Carbon Dioxide	35	-

<u>Opinion</u>	The water contains high bicarbonate alkalinity and a high concentration of free carbon dioxide. It is likely to be corrosive to ferrous metals. The organic condition is satisfactory. The fluorine content is negligible.	The chemical condition of this sample is satisfactory.
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Housing.

The number of houses completed within the Borough during the year is as follows:-

Number of private houses and bungalows completed 20
Number of Council houses, bungalows and flats
completed None
Total number of houses in the area is as follows:-

Houses:	4 - bedroomed	1
	3 - bedroomed	254
	2 - bedroomed	42
	1 - bedroomed	4
Bungalows:	2 - bedroomed	50
	1 - bedroomed	7
Flats:	1 - bedroomed	20
	2 - bedroomed	8
	Total:	<u>386</u>

The position regarding the applicants for Council houses during the year was as follows:-

Number of applicants on register, December, 1966 .. 151
Number of new applicants during the year 35
Number rehoused during the year 9

Improvement Grants.

The number of Discretionary and Standard Grants approved by the Council during the year is as follows:-

Number of Discretionary Grants ... 7
Number of Standard Grants 1

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Now that the new sewage disposal works is almost completed we hope that the insanitary condition at the sewage farm will shortly be at an end. A scheme for the improvement of the sewage works land has been undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries so that it can be returned solely for agricultural purposes.

As soon as the sewage works will be fully operational, samples of the effluent will be taken regularly and all the requirements of the Dee and Clwyd River Authority will be adhered to. Spot samples will be taken during the day to keep the B.O.D. and suspended solids of the water discharged to the river to below the Ministry standards required by the Board. A full time sewage works attendant will be employed at the works to ensure that it runs efficiently.

Public Conveniences.

These have been maintained in a satisfactory condition but complaints have been received due to the dirty habits of people who use the toilets. They are cleaned every morning and damage and filthiness have occurred after the period of cleansing on numerous occasions. Without full time supervision this situation will not improve.

Refuse Collection.

The town is served with a regular weekly collection of house refuse and approximately 1,600 bins are collected weekly. A paper sack system has been considered by the Council but has been deferred for the time being.

Refuse Disposal.

The refuse tip is being maintained in as clean a condition as possible and controlled tipping is carried out to the best of our ability, having regard to the covering material and plant available and the extra loads brought in from the Ruthin Rural District Council. During the year the Ruthin Rural District Council deposited 938 loads at the tip.

Offensive Trades.

There are five fish frying establishments within the Borough and no complaints have been received about them during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	31	15	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	1	Nil	Nil
Total	41	16	Nil	Nil

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	NIL	NIL	NIL
(b) Unsuitable or defective	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(c) Not separate for sexes	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

PART VIII OF THE ACT (Contd.)

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
(i)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper.						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons etc.						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.						
Textile weaving.						
Lampshades						
TOTAL.						

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.,) Cleaning) and) Washing						
Household linen						
Lace, lace curtains and nets						
Curtains and furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cables and chains						
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas, etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						

Motor Vehicle Accidents, 1965.

Total number of accidents within the Borough:-

Slightly injured	9
Seriously injured	5
Fatalities	-

14

Rodent Control.

During the year 21 properties were successfully treated against rats and all infestation notified to the office is promptly dealt with.

The town sewers have been treated during the year with considerable success.

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Service.

The Public Health Laboratory at Conway carries out bacteriological examinations of water, food, etc. to detect any contamination. Milk is also examined bacteriologically and biologically for the presence of tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus.

Examination of throat swabs, blood, faeces, etc., are carried out to detect the presence of bacteria and viruses at Conway and at Rhyl Hospital.

Ambulance Service.

The following is given for the information of the Council, and the numbers refer to cases conveyed by the various ambulances and the mileage covered during the year.

	Denbigh/ Ruthin	Llanrwst.	Llangernyw	Cerrig y Drudion	Totals.
Number of cases conveyed by ambulance.	12916	66	2358	73	15413
Total miles travelled.	133439	2105	22847	3555	161946
Number of ambulances per station.	6	1	1	1	9
Whether manned by voluntary or full- time personnel	Full-time	Voluntary	Full-time and voluntary assistance	voluntary	

Sitting Case Cars - Taxis

<u>Number of Journeys</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>	<u>Total mileage</u>
1943	6047	75,691

Mental Health Service.

This service is under the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health. The Mental Welfare Officer for this area is

Mr. Michael Watson, who may be contacted at the County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin, Tel. No. Ruthin 2361.

Orthopaedic Clinics.

A Clinic is held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, on the first and third Wednesday morning in each month. Surgeons from Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital attend once a month.

Some patients attend Orthopaedic Clinics held weekly at Wrexham and Rhyl hospitals.

Venereal Diseases Clinics.

These Clinics are held at H.M. Stanley Hospital, St. Asaph, on Tuesdays between 4.30 and 6.30 p.m. and at the War Memorial Hospital, Wrexham, on Mondays between 5 and 7 p.m. (males) and Wednesdays between 5 and 7 p.m. (females).

School Ophthalmic Clinics.

Sessions are held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, by appointment and children also attend Ophthalmic Clinics held at Denbigh, St. Asaph and Wrexham hospitals, and by appointment at Ruthin.

Child Guidance Clinics.

Clinics are held as follows:-

- At Bod Difyr, Cefn Road, Colwyn Bay, on Wednesdays and Fridays.
- At Gatefield Clinic, Kings Mills Road, Wrexham, on Thursdays and by appointment on Fridays.
- At Mercier House Clinic, Russell Road, Rhyl, every Monday.

Chest Clinics.

Patients from the Borough attend the Chest Clinic held every Wednesday morning at the Denbigh Infirmary and at weekly clinics held at the Chest Clinic, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, and at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl.

Family Planning Clinics.

Clinics are held as follows:-

- 1, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, on Thursdays, between 2 and 4.30 p.m.
- Nant-y-Glyn Clinic, Colwyn Bay, on Mondays, between 2.30 and 3.30 p.m.
- The Clinic, Fforddlas, Rhyl, on Wednesdays, between 7 and 8 p.m.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

This clinic is held at the County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin, every Tuesday afternoon.

The number attending the clinic during the year was:-

Children born in 1966:	81
Children born in 1965:	93
Children born between 1964/61:	105
First visits. Total attendance - under 1 year:	765
1 - 5 years:	295

Special transport to the Clinic is provided from the outlying districts at Eryrys, Llanferres and Maeshafn where there are no convenient buses. The number of mothers and babies who took advantage of this service during the year was 10 mothers and 15 babies.

Welfare Foods.

Welfare foods are sold at the County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin, during clinic sessions.

Chiropody Clinic.

This clinic is held at the County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin. Patients are referred to this Clinic by General Practitioners, Health Visitors and District Nurses. A charge of 2/6d per treatment is made. The number of persons who attended this clinic during the year was as follows:-

Number on Register	78
Number of sessions held	31
Number of appointments made	173
Number of attendances	123

The above figures include patients from the Rural District who attend this clinic.

Dental Clinic.

A dental clinic for mothers, toddlers and school children is held at the County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin, by appointment. Children may be referred by General Practitioners, School and Assistant County Medical Officers and Health Visitors. Dental Officers visit the schools to examine children's teeth and appointments are made for them to attend the clinic for treatment.

An orthodontist also attends to treat children referred to him by appointment.

Nursing Services.

The following are the names and addresses of the nursing staff serving the Borough:-

Health Visitors:	Miss C. J. Davies and Miss E. Edwards, County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin. Telephone No. Ruthin 2361.
Tuberculosis Health Visitor:	Miss M. Lloyd Edwards, The Chest Clinic, Wrexham.
District Nurses:-	Sister E. M. Coghlan, resigned in July, 1966. Sister E. Owen, Flat 3, 20, Clwyd Street, Ruthin, commenced duties 7:10:66. Telephone No. Ruthin 2642.
Relief District Nurse:	Sister Dowell, 23, Park Road, Ruthin. commenced duty 5:9:66. Telephone No. Ruthin 2489.

School Health Attendant.

The School Health Attendant visited the various schools in the Borough during the year to test the hearing and vision of the children. A portable audiometer and vision screening apparatus was used and children who were found to have defective hearing and/or vision were followed up and referred to a Consultant for further examination where necessary.

The number of children tested during the year was as follows:-

<u>Vision Sweeps</u>		<u>Audiometric Sweeps.</u>	
Number of children tested:	1129	Number of children tested:	1129
Number satisfactory:	1035	Number satisfactory:	1095
Number of defects:	44	Number of defects:	34
Number for observation:	16	Number for observation:	14

Domestic Help Service.

The number of cases where domestic help was provided was as follows:-

Chronic sick and T.B.	6
Others	7
Over 65 years of age	113

WEATHER AT RUTHIN IN 1966.

We are grateful to Mr. Bleddyn Griffith, Headmaster, for the following remarks on the weather recorded at the Brynhyfryd County Secondary School Meteorological Station, a co-operating station of the Met. Office.

The most noteworthy feature of the weather at Ruthin in 1966 was its extreme dullness and the number of days on which rain was recorded.

The total hours of bright sunshine numbered only 1,242, a daily average of 3.4. This is the lowest for three years and 1956 was the third dull year in succession. There were 82 days when no sunshine at all was recorded.

The sunniest month was May with 212 hours, a daily average of 6.8 hours. May 29 was the sunniest with 14.9 hours of bright sunshine. The seven day period of May 28 to June 3 was extremely sunny with 92.9 hours of sunshine, equal to just over 13.2 hours a day.

The dullest month was November with a sunshine daily average of only one hour.

The total rainfall of 30 inches was not high, being only .49 inches above average, but it was spread over 194 days or 15 days above the average. Between November 25 and December 31 there were 6.44 inches. In this period only six days were without rain.

There were no periods of drought (15 successive days without rain). The longest single dry period was of 13 days between September 17 and 29 inclusive.

Taken as a whole temperatures were slightly up on normal although April was a very cold month. February and December were particularly mild.

During the year the thermometer reached the 70's on only 15 days compared with 57 in 1959. The hottest day was June 10 with a maximum temperature of 76 degrees, while the coldest was January 16 with a minimum temperature of 16 degrees.

